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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

Do not abandon the 1996 Telecommunications Act's requirement placed on Local Exchange Carriers to provide "unbundled network elements," in particular last-mile copper cable, to competing communication providers.

Adherence to network neutrality principles is the key selection criterion for my ISP services. There are, however, only two ISPs serving my home that own their own cable, AT&T and Comcast, neither of which adhere to network neutrality. This leaves me with competitive providers like Sonic that have embraced network neutrality. The fact that Sonic also provides a better service overall, both Internet and telephone, is icing on the cake.

If AT&T or Comcast had truly paid the full cost of their last-mile infrastructure, I might think differently about the requirement for them to provide services to their competitors, but that is not the case. While I'm sure they paid for the copper itself, they did not dig the trenches that run down my street, and I suspect that the cost of laying the conduits was subsidized with public money, if not the conduits themselves. That contribution of public money must be put to the creation of a competitive marketplace, not used to provide subsidies to mega-corporations that need no subsidy in the first place.

David Walker